

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed August 18, 2009 the Office noted that claims 1-3, 5-25 and 37-39 were pending and rejected claims 1-3, 5-25 and 37-39. Claims 1 and 25 have been amended, claims 26-36 have been canceled, claims 37-39 are new, and, thus, in view of the foregoing, claims 1-3, 5-25 and 37-39 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Office's rejections are traversed below.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nishimura, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0063570 in view of Ikeda, U.S. Patent No. 6,957,083 in view of Gauld, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0198435. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument and amendment.

Nishimura discusses a mobile device that includes two displays and is foldable.

Gauld discusses an electronic device that has a lower portion that unfolds to reveal an extendable keyboard that when folded a number pad is visible and the device looks similar to a cellular telephone.

Ikeda discusses mobile telephone in which a camera portion is rotatably provided in a coupling portion for rotatably coupling a first casing and a second casing to each other.

The Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "... a 2-axis hinge unit coupling the housings for folding and swinging movement of the upper housing relative to the lower housing about intersecting axes, one of which is arranged in the lower housing and the other of which is arranged in the upper housing, **the intersecting axes is formed in a column**; wherein a top face of the one of the axes is exposed outside the terminal for viewing due to arranging the one of the axes in the through cutting of the upper housing in all positions of the upper housing, and an information input device is mounted in the top face of one of the axes, **the through cutting is formed to a sector, the upper housing closely swings around a circumference of the column axis,**" (emphasis added) as in claim 1. Support for the amendment may be found, for example, in Figs. 1a-2b and the supporting text of the Specification; Figs. 4a and 4b; and the supporting text. The Applicants submit that no new matter is believed to have been added by the amendment of claim 1. Claims 37 and 39 have been amended in a manner consistent with the amendment to claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Nishimura, Ikeda and Gauld fail to disclose the intersecting axes is formed in a column and the through cutting is formed to a sector, the upper housing closely swings around a circumference of the column axis.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Nishimura, Ikeda and Gauld, taken separately or in combination, fail to

render obvious the features of claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom.

Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nishimura in view of in view of Ikeda in view of Gauld and further in view of Schmitt, U.S. Patent No. 6,088,585. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument.

Schmitt adds nothing to the combination of Nishimura, Ikeda, Gauld as applied against the independent claims. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Nishimura, Ikeda, Gauld and Schmitt, taken separately or in combination, fail to render obvious claims 8 and 9.

Claims 10-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nishimura in view of Ikeda in view of Gauld and further in view of Kim, U.S. Patent No. 6,621,066. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument.

Kim adds nothing to the combination of Nishimura, Ikeda, and Gauld as applied against the independent claims. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Nishimura, Ikeda, Gauld and Kim, taken separately or in combination, fail to render obvious claims 10-17.

Claims 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nishimura in view of Ikeda in view of Gauld and further in view of Wada, U.S. Patent Publication No.

2003/0174240. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument.

Wada adds nothing to the combination of Nishimura, Ikeda and Gauld as applied against the independent claims. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Nishimura, Ikeda, Gauld and Wada, taken separately or in combination, fail to render obvious claims 20-22.

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nishimura in view of Ikeda in view of Gauld and in view of Wada and further in view of Schmitt. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument.

Wada and Schmitt add nothing to the combination of Nishimura, Ikeda and Gauld as applied against the independent claims. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Nishimura, Ikeda, Gauld, Wada and Schmitt, taken separately or in combination, fail to render obvious claim 23.

Claims 37 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nishimura in view of Ikeda. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument.

The Applicants have amended the claims 37 and 38 in a manner consistent with those of claim 1. It is submitted that the combination of Nishimura and Ikeda fail to render obvious the through cutting is formed to a sector, the upper housing closely

swings around a circumference of a column axis as in claim 38.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 37-39 are new. Support for the claims may be found, for example, in claim 1 and Figs. 1A-1C, 2A-2B and 3. The Applicants believe that no new matter is believed to have been added by the inclusion of claims 37-39. The prior art fails to disclose a 2-axis hinge unit coupling the housings and having an open/close rotation axis and a horizontal rotation axis which is in the through cutting of the upper housing in all positions of the upper housing; and an information input device being mounted in a top face of the horizontal rotation axis; or a 2-axis hinge unit coupling the lower and the upper housing allowing faces of the upper housing and lower housing to open and close against each other and to have the upper housing and lower housing rotate relative to each other around an axis created by the pointing device in the 2-axis hinge unit, the pointing device exposed to an operator in any position of the upper housing and lower housing relative to each other.

SUMMARY

It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 103. It is also submitted that claims 1-3, 5-25 and 37-39 continue to be allowable. It is

further submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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